

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4 and 6-9 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification is amended by amendment of the Abstract. Claims 2, 3 and 5 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Claims 1, 4, 6, 7 and 9 are amended. Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of canceled claims 2, 3 and 5. Claims 4, 6 and 7 are amended to correct dependencies. No new matter is added.

I. Rejection to the Abstract

The Abstract is objected to for containing legal phraseology. As the Abstract is amended to better comport with U.S. Patent Practice, withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract is respectfully requested.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

The indication of allowable subject matter in claims 5, 6, 8 and 9 is appreciated, they being allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and to include all of the features of their base claim and any intervening claims. As the subject matter of allowable claim 5 and the relevant intervening claims are incorporated into independent claim 1, claims 1, 4, 6, 8 and 9 are in condition for allowance. Additionally, as claim 7 is amended to incorporate corresponding features of allowable claim 1, claim 7 is also in condition for allowance.

III. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-6, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Specific language in claims 1, 3, 6 and 8 is identified as forming the basis of those rejections. As claims 2, 3 and 5 are canceled, the rejection of those claims is moot. Because the claims are amended in response to the rejection, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-6, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

IV. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-4 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,611,418 to Helmstetter. As claims 2 and 3 are canceled, the rejection of those claims is moot. The rejection of claims 1, 4 and 7 is respectfully traversed.

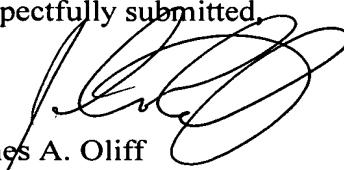
As independent claims 1 and 7 are amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 5, Helmstetter fails to disclose each and every feature recited in the rejected claims, as amended. For example, Helmstetter fails to disclose a method of conveying extruded molded products . . . wherein obtaining a response delay of the delivery speed of the material feed unit to the conveyor speed of the plurality of conveyors and an attenuation time wherein a target value of the delivery speed is set based upon the response delay and the attenuation time when the conveyor speed of the plurality of conveyors is changed, as recited in amended claim 1, or a device for carrying out such a method, as recited in amended claim 7. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-4 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

V. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 4 and 6-9 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Amended Abstract

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

~~Buffer means 20Z consisting of an~~A conveyor system having an expansion conveyor
~~20a, inverted conveyor 20b and expansion conveyor 20c is~~conveyor interposed between the
~~some of a plurality of conveyors 24 and 25 of a conveying unit 20 so that when a trouble~~
~~occurs in a receiving unit 30, the expansion conveyors 20a and 20c of the buffer means 20Z~~
~~are expanded to extend the conveying line, and~~ when trouble is detected at a receiving unit.
Upon detection of trouble the extruder revolution R-speed and the conveyor speed V are
changed to reduce the conveying speed not to carry the extruded treads 1 molded products to
the receiving unit 30 unit. ~~When the above trouble is solved, the conveying line of the buffer~~
~~means 20Z is made the shortest, and the extruder revolution R and the conveyor speed V are~~
~~changed to increase the conveying speed so as to carry the buffered extruded treads to the~~
~~receiving unit 30.~~